

REMARKS

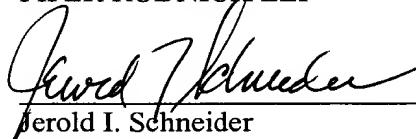
This is in response to the Office Action mailed 17 June 2004. Claims 26-95 have been canceled without prejudice to Applicants' right to present these claims in another application. New Claims 96-124 have been added. An IDS and Request for Extension of Time (with fee) are filed concurrently.

All rejections of record are believed to be moot based on the newly presented claims which overcome the rejections based upon, *inter alia*, 35 U.S.C. 112 and 35 U.S.C. 103. The attention of the Examiner is respectfully directed to the claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,231,971 which issued from a prior application upon which the present application is based. It is believed that all presently presented claims are narrower than Claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,231,971 and are submitted to be allowable.

Reconsideration and allowance are solicited. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that an interview will expedite the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged and requested to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

PIPER RUDNICK LLP



Gerald I. Schneider
Registration No. 24,765
Attorney of Record

1200 Nineteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-2412
Telephone No. (202) 861-3900
Facsimile No. (202) 223-2085

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